VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

Breakpoints and CSS Media Queries

Hello and welcome to the lesson about responsive design breakpoints and media queries. You've probably heard these terms before and I would like to make sure you fully understand it. In this video, I'll explain how the mobile version of the Divi theme is structured, what are breakpoints and how Divi works with different media queries.

Mobile First Design in Divi

So first, you might have heard the mobile first term when it comes to responsive design, the mobile first approach refers to the practice of designing and developing a mobile website version before designing for desktop, that is a very good approach when building a site from scratch using custom code. Unfortunately, it is not possible to apply it inside a page builder like Divi. So when we are using Divi, we are working desktop first, which basically means we are designing everything for desktop and scaling down the design for mobile afterwards. The choice for mobile first and desktop first has its representation in how we would write the CSS and the media queries, but we'll get to that in a moment. First, let me explain what our CSS breakpoints are and how Divi uses it. So, a breakpoint is basically a point where the website content responds differently on each side of the breakpoint allowing you to show the best possible layouts to the user and these are directly connected with CSS media queries which are used to specify when our CSS code should apply by specifying certain conditions. And usually, that condition would be a screen width. And as we know, Divi offers the option to define

different content and styles for three device types, desktop tablet, and mobile. In practice, this equals for desktop that would be screen with 981 pixels and above. Tablet equals the screen with between 768 pixels and 980 pixels and phone refers to screen size 767 pixels and below. That means we have 2 breakpoints here at the 767 pixels and at 980 pixels. If we would apply the mobile first approach in our main CSS styles that CSS code would be defined for phones and then we could add a modified version and specify the minimum screen width and the breakpoint where the tablet styles would be added. And then another breakpoint for larger screen sizes, breakpoint at minimum width 981 pixels and we would add more styles to create a different layout type that would be the mobile first approach, simple styles for phones and then media query which specified the minimum width for the new set of styles and an additional set of styles for another larger minimum width. In Divi, the default style sheet, the default CSS code is written for desktop and that means that to make changes on smaller screen sizes, we need to define the maximum width for the new set of style it should apply to. So to target tablets and phones, that would be the screen width from 0 to 980 pixels at most. And then these styles could be overwritten with CSS media query, which targets screens from 0 to 767 pixels for phones only. So when working with media queries we specify the minimum width or the maximum screen width where the CSS will be applied, But we can also use both for example, to target tablets and only tablets without targeting phones or desktop, we could specify the screen width of minimum 768 pixels and maximum width of 980 pixels.

Browser Inspector

To better see that minimum and maximum width logic, you can preview the media queries used by the document when inside the browser

inspector and that includes all CSS media queries the browser sees. It can be from the Divi theme, the WordPress may use different ones, and some plugins can define more. We can enable it here by clicking this icon, and then show media queries, now, let me hide that so that it shows us these three different color bars and the blue one defines the maximum width. So as I resize the preview, you can see which media query is being applied, it gets highlighted. So when the screen is very small, the media query, that specify the maximum width of 380 pixels, takes effect here. And also this one, the maximum width of 479 pixels. And so on for larger screen sizes, all these media queries that has specified maximum width will apply to this small screen sizes, but as the screen gets larger, now these media queries that adds styles for screen sizes at maximum width, 380 pixels, does no longer work here because we have over 500 pixel screen width the same works for minimum width. So, when I have my screen, very small, none of these minimum width media queries take effect, but as the screen gets larger, now, this one minimum width 480 does start to work and now also this one the minimum width 600 pixels. And the green one shows both the minimum and maximum width. So as we are at 650 pixels that media query that specifies styles from minimum width of 600-781 will take effect. But as soon as my screen gets larger, this media query no longer works but this one does. So you can preview all these media queries right here. And then you can also - let me put it back here. Once I see a media query, I can right-click and choose reveal in source code, so I have multiple places where that media query is being used. I can click to show it and now, I can see that CSS. So the Divi style CSS file specifies some row and column reviews for comments. Some CSS for comments for screen sizes of minimum width 480 pixels and I can do the same with all these different media queries and preview that inside the browser inspector.

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And this sums up this breakpoint and media queries overview.

Hopefully, this gives you a better understanding of that CSS functionality. Thank you very much for watching and see you in the next video where we'll have a closer look at the media query CSS syntax.